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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/329,391	06/10/1999	GERRIT H. SOEPENBERG	PHN-16.974	8047

7590

09/30/2002

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EXAMINER

LEVITAN, DMITRY

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2662

DATE MAILED: 09/30/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/329,391

Applicant(s)

SOEPENBERG ET AL.

Examiner

Dmitry Levitan

Art Unit

2662

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☒ The proposed drawing correction filed on 04 September 2002 is: a) ☒ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 9.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Applicant amendment, filed September 4, 2002 has been entered. Claims 1-8 remain pending.

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement submitted on August 30, 2002 was filed after the mailing date of the First Office Action on May 28, 2002. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the petition is granted and the information disclosure statement has been considered by the examiner.

Specification

2. Abbreviations or acronyms were explained in the amendment. The specification objection is withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Wasilewski (US 5420866).

Regarding claims 1, 3, 5 and 7 Wasilewski teaches a transmission system (see Fig. 2) for transmitting a multiplex signal 68 (see Fig. 4) from a transmitter 8 (satellite uplink) to a receiver 201(subscriber location, see col. 8 lines 1-30). Multiplex signal 68 is a periodic signal because said signal carries Program Map Table (PMT) to each decoder (see col. 10

lines 8-30). Signal 68 has at least a module 72 (Program Definition 2 on Fig. 4) comprising at least one object 80 (Elementary Stream Definition 2 on Fig. 4).

Receiver 201 (see Fig. 6 and col. 13 lines 35-68) has extracting means (decoder 110) for extracting objects 80 from the multiplex signal 68. Decoder 110 is adapted to extract objects 80 (Elementary Stream Definition 2, Fig. 4) based on the module 72 (Program Definition 2, fig. 4) related information 74 (Program Number, Fig. 4). Module related information 74 is included in the multiplex signal 68 (see Fig. 4).

Regarding claims 2, 4 and 6 Wasilewski discloses a transmission system (see rejection of claim 1 above) where module related information (Program Definition 2 on Fig. 4) is contained in a single information section (Program Number 74 on Fig. 4) of the transport stream 68.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed August 30, 2002 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

On page 8 of the Response, Applicant argues that Wasilewski (US 5,420,866) does not disclose "periodically repeated modules each comprising at least one object" and "the term objects, as used in the art and in specification, refers to self-contained executable code segments".

Examiner respectfully disagrees.

Wasilewski does show periodically repeated modules each comprising at least one object on Fig. 4 where module 72 (Program Definition 2) comprises at least one object 80 (Elementary Stream Definition 2).

Applicant's argument with respect to the "self-contained executable code segments" is not believed relevant since it is not expressly claimed. The term "object reasonably interpreted can refer to many things including a piece of data.

Object as described by Wasilewski (Elementary Stream Definition) contains "elementary Packet ID (PID) fields 82 that specifies the unique PID associated with the Transport Packets that carry that elementary stream of the defined program" (col. 10 lines 50-55). This PID is used by the decoder to "extract every incoming Transport Packet having a PID that matches one of those listed in the program definition for the selected program" (col. 10 lines 25-29).

Program map 68, as all signals or messages in digital communication, is a sequence of bytes with predefined meaning.

Therefore the reference does disclose modules comprising at least one object.

Examiner therefore believes that the cited reference meets all the claims limitations and the rejection is proper.

Conclusion

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

Art Unit: 2662

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dmitry Levitan whose telephone number is 703-305-4384. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 to 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hassan Kizou can be reached on 703-305-4744. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9314 for regular communications and 703-872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-4750.

Dmitry Levitan
Patent examiner.
September 26, 2002



HASSAN KIZOU
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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